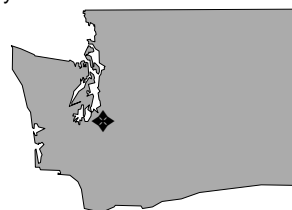


**Size:** 191 acres  
**Mission:** Served as shipbuilding facility and reserve shipyard  
**HRS Score:** Unknown  
**IAG Status:** None  
**Contaminants:** VOCs, PNAs, PCBs, and heavy metals, including arsenic, lead, and mercury  
**Media Affected:** Groundwater, sediment, and soil  
**Funding to Date:** \$0.2 million  
**Estimated Cost to Completion (Completion Year):** \$0.04 million (FY1999)  
**Final Remedy in Place or Response Complete Date for All Sites:** NA



Tacoma, Washington

### Restoration Background

The former Todd Tacoma shipyard is located on Commencement Bay between Hylebos and Blair Waterways in Tacoma, Washington. The 191-acre facility was acquired between 1942 and 1948 for use by the U.S. Navy. In 1960, all but 8.33 acres was conveyed to the Port of Tacoma. The remainder was retained by the Navy for a Navy and Marine Corps Reserve Training Center.

Between 1917 and 1940, the then privately owned property was in use intermittently for shipbuilding, including construction of vessels for the Navy. Beginning in 1940, the western portion of the facility, approximately 74.2 acres, owned at that time by Seattle-Tacoma Shipbuilding Corporation (later called Todd Pacific Shipyards Inc. Tacoma Division), was rapidly developed to support the Navy war effort. Adjacent lands were acquired both by the Navy and by the Maritime Commission to expand the plant. By October 1942, the Maritime Commission had transferred all of its contractual and facility interests to the Navy. Land acquisitions continued until the end of the war, and the facility, including the 74.2-acre Todd-owned portion, expanded to 191.04 acres.

After the war, the mission of the installation changed. It was designated a Naval Industrial Reserve Shipyard, and shipbuilding ceased. In September 1948, the Todd-owned property, was acquired in fee through a trade for Navy-owned property at the Todd Shipyard Drydock facility in Seattle. In October 1958, the installation was declared excess. The Navy and Marine Reserve Training Center retained 8.33 acres, and the remaining property was conveyed to the Port of Tacoma on January 1, 1960. The Port has leased portions of the facility for business and light industry.

In 1983, the Commencement Bay Nearshore/Tideflats Superfund Site was placed on the National Priorities List (NPL). The former naval yard

is adjacent to the mouth of the Hylebos Waterway problem area. Sediment sampling revealed high levels of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and several other contaminants. On December 21, 1994, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Seattle District, was sent a potentially responsible party (PRP) letter from the Hylebos PRP Group and on February 6, 1995, EPA Region 10, sent a General Notice Letter to the District Engineer. Other major PRPs include ASARCO Incorporated, Elf Atochem of North America, Inc., General Metals of Tacoma, Inc., Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation, Occidental Chemical Corporation, and the Port of Tacoma.

Investigations of the Commencement Bay Nearshore/Tideflats Superfund Site have been ongoing for several years. USACE, Seattle District, received approval to initiate PRP investigations using existing field studies and other sources of information in February 1996. Authority has been granted to determine DoD liability and negotiate a settlement with the other PRPs for both the FUDS property and the active Navy training center. A Site Ownership/Operational History (SOOH) was undertaken in June 1997 to develop the information required for a determination of liability.

### FY98 Restoration Progress

The scope of the SOOH expanded to include additional information sources and properties.

### Plan of Action

- Complete SOOH in early 1999

### FY99 FUNDING BY PHASE AND RELATIVE RISK

